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own. Poor Robert Burns, that child of genius, but of error, stands as an awful beacon to warn poets against danger. Probably there is little danger in this country, and in these times of being hurt by patronage, but the Caledonian Hunt proved ruinous to the morals and happiness of the Scotch bard. Poets should especially learn

prudence, for without it, genius only bewileis and leads astray. They also should not be too easily satisfied with their own productions, and when much time cannot with propriety be devoted to literary studies, let them rather aim to do a little well, than seek to increase in bulk at the expense of correctness. K.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Willaim Everard Baron von Doornick for certain improvements in the manufacture of Soap, to wash with Sea water, and hard water.

Dated Feb 1809.

AFTER a preamble, enumerating the various substances which have hitherto been used for making soap (for the greater security of the patent) any of which the patentee declares may be used in his method; by uniting them to the gall of animals, and lime in various states of combination; the following particular directions are given for making this soap.

To make soap for the purpose of washing with sea water, and hard water, take about one hundred and twelve pounds of tallow, or a proportionate quantity of fat, oil, or other substance of which soap is made, and proceed by any of the usual processes, to convert it into soap, or nearly so. Then add about eighty pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other calcareous substance in combination with about ten gallons of weak soap leys, or with water; but the solution of soap leys and the carbonate of lime are preferred. These are to be introduced into the soap, both being in a warm state, agitating the mass for several hours, and raising and keeping the same to the boiling point, which is generally sufficient to convert the whole mass into soap, or that state which is technically called finished. Then the fire is to be withdrawn, and after suffering the mass to cool, to the temperature of about one hundred and eighty degrees of Fahrenheit's scale, about

seven pints of the gall of animals are to be added, which if in a coagulated state is to be diluted with a small quantity of water or weak soap leys continuing the agitation till a complete mixture takes place, when it is put into frames in the usual way, and when it is sufficiently cooled, it is cut up as is usually done by soap makers. By this means the soap produced will answer the purpose of washing in sea water, and in hard water, and is more economical, and scours, and washes better than soap made by any former process.

To make soap for washing in soft water, and all other purposes for which common soaps are used, the patentee proceeds in the manner described, except that to every hundred and twelve pounds of tallow, or proportionate quantity of any other substance (used for the same purpose) about twenty eight pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance is added along with about nine gallons of weak soap leys, or water, and about two pints of animal gall.

To improve soft soap, and make it wash in hard water, and sea water, the patentee takes soft soap, formed of any substance usual; or proceeds in the usual way to make soft soap; to every hundred weight of which he adds about fifty six pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance, in a state of solution, with about twelve gallons of pearl ash or pot ash leys, or of any other soap leys of which soft soap is made, of a middling strength; the soap and

solution are to be united, both in a warm state, and are at the same time to be well agitated, and brought to the temperature of about one hundred and eighty of Fahrenheit's scale; than about seven pints of animal gall are to be added, and when they are intimately mixed, the soap is completed, and will answer all the purposes above mentioned.

To improve soft soap, for general purposes in soft water, proceed as described in the last process, only observe to add about nineteen pounds of the carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance, in solution with about ten gallons of pearl ash or potash leys; or of other soap leys, of which soft soap is made, of a middling strength, and about two pints of animal gall in lieu of the proportions above described. Soap made in this way will wash and scour woollens, flannels, cotton; linen, and a variety of other articles, in a superior manner to soaps made in any manner before publicly known.

The proportions mentioned, are those which the patentee has found by long experience to be best calculated to effect the object desired; but he has prefixed the word *about* to each quantity specified, because though the proportions stated are sufficient for the purpose, yet a small variation may be made in the quantities of the different component parts of the patent soap, without producing in it any material alteration.

Patent of Mr. Michael Shannon of Berwick-street, London, for improvement in the art of Brewing.

Dated March, 1810.

Mr. Shannon's improvement in Brewing consists in making the liquor circulate through the infusing vessel (or mashing tub) and the boiler, by the action of a forcing pump.

The apparatus, by which this is effected, is principally an infusing vessel closed at top, having two sets of pipes communicating with the top and bottom of the boiler in such a manner, that a forcing pump, joined to them, can be made to impel the liquor through the malt in the infusing vessel and through the boiler, either

from the bottom upwards, or from the top downwards according as cocks placed in these pipes are turned in different directions.

The infusing vessel is also provided with two false bottoms, or perforated partitions, withinside, one near its top, and another near its bottom, to allow the liquor or wort to pass more freely through it during the time of operating, it has also a small door near each extremity for putting in and taking out the malt, which doors are closed tight by screws; and for greater security the top and bottom of the vessel are also fastened to the sides by screws; there is besides an open pipe rising upwards from the top to let off the air, and a cock at its bottom to let off the liquor when the infusion is completed; this infusing vessel is, as represented in the drawing, about half the diameter of the boiler, and twice its height in length, and is placed in a sloping position, so that the lower edge of its top may reach just above the top of the boiler; near the forcing pump, an air vessel is fastened, similar to that in fire engines and for the same purpose of keeping up a constant uniform motion in the impelled fluid.

The boiler is closed at top, has a cock to let off the liquor, when required, and in other respects is fitted up in the usual manner.

The patentee concludes his specification with stating, that by these improvements, the wort may be made as strong as the proportions of materials will allow; that the inconvenient and imperfect operation of mashing is avoided; and that the spout, or exhausted grain may be afterwards drawn out with great facility and saving of labour; he also states that a similar apparatus may be applied for passing the wort through hops instead of boiling; in case the same should be preferred either for economy, or for giving strength or peculiar flavour to the liquor.

Observation....The purpose of Mr. Shannon's apparatus, might be probably effected equally well by one of simpler construction. The patentee seems to prefer making the liquor pass from below upwards through the malt in the infusing vessel, and as there